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REMARKS

For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of all currently pending claims 30-33 as they would appear after entry of this amendment is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Support for claim 30 as amended is found, e.g., at page 4, lines 11-16, of the specification, which the Examiner has previously characterized as referring to blocking adhesion between bone marrow stromal cells (cells which express VCAM-1) and lymphocytes (cells which express VLA-4). Expression of VLA-4 on lymphocytes is noted throughout the specification, for example, at page 2, lines 34-36, and at page 9, lines 2-10.

Support for claims 32-33 as amended is found in a number of places throughout the specification, e.g., at page 5, lines 14-15, and at page 17, lines 24-30, which state that "VLA-4 . . . is expressed at high levels on bone marrow cells bearing the CD34 antigen" and that "CD34 expression distinguishes a subset of bone marrow cells (1-4%) which are enriched in primitive stem cells and progenitors."

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, may properly be withdrawn in view of this submission, Applicants' arguments made in the response mailed August 20, 1997 (paper no. 24) and the declaratory evidence previously submitted in support of Applicants' position.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, O'TOOLE, GERSTEIN,
MURRAY & BORUN
6300 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606

By: Li-Hsien Rin-Laures

Li-Hsien Rin-Laures, M.D.

Registration No. 33,547

Attorney for Applicants

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